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REGULATION

SECURITY  
1954

RELEASE OF AGENCY INFORMATION TO REPRESENTATIVES  
OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEDIA

1. GENERAL

- a. Any publicity, factual or fictional concerning intelligence, is potentially detrimental to the effectiveness of an intelligence activity and to the national security.
- b. Public information media are those written, oral, or pictorial activities designed to inform the public, such as newspapers, radio, magazines television, motion pictures, newsreels, etc. Representatives of such media have, as their basic purpose, the collection and publication of all information of interest to the public and, in particular, information concerning the conduct of official business in the Government. This purpose is in conflict with the basic principle set forth in paragraph a above.
- c. The relationships arising out of associations of Agency employees with representatives of public information media raise certain fundamental questions of security. In view of such questions, this Regulation establishes policy and procedures in regard to limitations on outside activities of Agency personnel which may involve disclosure of Agency information to representatives of public information media.
- d. This Regulation supersedes any prior Regulations in conflict with its provisions.

2. AUTHORITY

The responsibility of releasing Agency information to public information media or representatives thereof is centralized in the Office of the Director of Central Intelligence. An Assistant to the Director of Central Intelligence, herein referred to as the Assistant, performs the duties and functions of releasing or approving the release of Agency information to public information media, and to advise in matters pertaining to the relations of CIA employees with representatives of public information media.

3. POLICY

a. INQUIRIES

All inquiries from representatives of public information media will be referred to the Assistant.

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b. LIMITATIONS ON CONTACTS

- (1) Employees of the Agency will have no contact with representatives of public information media for the purpose of furnishing official information for publication except with prior approval of the Assistant.
- (2) Employees will not have contacts with representatives of public information media when it is reasonable to believe that such contacts will result in publication concerning official matters unless authorized by the Director or the Assistant.
- (3) Employees are urged to avoid conversations with or in the presence of representatives of public information media which might result in the misuse or misconstruction of statements made by employees on matters of public interest. If such contact is unavoidable, it is incumbent upon employees to be circumspect in their conversation and to avoid discussion of controversial public matters related to intelligence.

c. REPORTING

Unless otherwise specifically authorized by the Director any contact under circumstances indicated in paragraph b above, including social, with public information media representatives whether authorized in advance or not, will be reported immediately by the employee to the Assistant. Such reports will be in writing and will give the name of the representative to whom the employee spoke, the publication represented, a summary of the information furnished or the matters of public interest discussed, and, if applicable, the reason for not having obtained prior clearance.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. The Assistant will inform the Director of Security promptly of any matter of security significance in relation to contacts of CIA employees with representatives of public information media.
- b. Operating officials will ensure that the provisions of this Regulation are periodically brought to the attention of all individuals under their supervision.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

L. K. WHITE  
Deputy Director  
(Administration)

DISTRIBUTION: ALL EMPLOYEES

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